

STANFORD UNIVERSITY
Stanford, California

March 27, 1958

Dr. P. F. Shvetsov, Director
Institut Merzlotovedeniya
B. Cherkasskiy Per. No. 2/10
Moscow, USSR

Dear Dr. Shvetsov,

Please accept my sincere thanks for your letter of February 5 and the enclosed reprints on permafrost. Although the reprints which I mailed you dealt chiefly with the biological aspect of frozen ground, our interest in the subject of permafrost includes also the physical aspects of the phenomenon. We are trying to assemble as complete a library on frozen ground as possible, in order that the students and auditors in the course which I give here at Stanford University may have access to the original sources, especially those which are published in the USSR. I will be very grateful to you if you will mail to me directly or to the Branner Geological Library, Stanford University, all available literature which we do not already have.

It was also brought to my attention that your Institute has recently published a Herzlotno-Geologicheskaya Karta. I am very anxious to see a copy of this map, in the hope that a uniform standard of coverage may be extended into the mapping of Alaskan and Canadian permafrost areas. You may be interested to know that my course in permafrost is attended by regularly enrolled students as well as by outsiders, especially the members of the Geological Survey whose branch office is located in our vicinity. One of the members of this group, Mr. Arthur Lachenbruch, has been very active in working on thermodynamic problems in permafrost. I have requested Mr. Lachenbruch to mail you reprints of several of his articles which have been published in recent weeks. I trust by this time you have received these publications and found them of interest.

I am especially interested in your suggestion of arranging an exchange of information on recent progress in the study of permafrost through an exchange of visits by the workers in this field between your country and ours. I am now exploring the possibility of bringing this suggestion into realization. As you may be aware, such plans for exchange of personnel involve individual planning by the prospective participants and most important, financial arrangements for travel. I will keep you informed on the progress in this matter as soon as my colleagues interested in this proposal furnish me definite information

-2-

on the practical aspects of the plan. Any further suggestions you may wish to offer to facilitate the exchange of visits will be greatly appreciated.

Please accept my best wishes for success in your scientific work and in anticipation of hearing from you again soon.

Sincerely yours,

Simon Wm. Muller
Professor of Geology

SWM/en